

Mr. Harold A. Beam,
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WEEKLY BULLETIN

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Entered as second-class matter December 9, 1930, at the Post Office at Detroit, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Published Weekly. Subscription Price: 50c per year (Non-members \$4.00) 10 cents per copy.

Volume 18

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, MARCH 7, 1944

No. 10

SOME THOUGHTS ON PREFABRICATION

By Goldwin Goldsmith, F.A.I.A.,
Dept. of Architecture, The University of Texas

Wherein "Goldy" unburdens himself on a moot question

They have sent your post cards over from the office. I've been having a bout with a bug and it bested me but I'm coming through without another attack of pneumonia (for which Detroit is still fresh in my memory).

I don't see how you manage to run a weekly. I ran a quarterly for my fraternity for seven years. My trouble was not with the "must go" articles but with the "didn't come" ones. Too often I had to hurriedly write those that didn't come. It was during that period that I took to writing doggerel to fill in "short papers."

Thanks for the compliment. I'll admit that I am a bit rabid on the subject of prefabrication and the fear that some architects have for what they think it will do to architecture, but I fear me I couldn't write it. Anyway, Morgan Yost about said it all in the January 4 issue of the Weekly Bulletin. His history of the start of prefabrication in house building was very interesting. I like his pointing out that change in house building will be evolutionary, not revolutionary. Our modernists seem to think that the change must be immediate — "presto! change!" — and we will have a completely new domicile, entirely different from anything ever before imagined. If that were to happen, what a lot of homesick people there would be!

This evening I heard Buckminster Fuller (of Dymaxion house fame) say, "I know that after the war houses will be mass produced." Maybe, but I am more ready to believe Morgan Yost when he says, "Your home of the future will be designed for you alone."

Of course, we have mass produced automobiles, refrigerators, washing machines (why not laundrerators?) and even ships, but does that prove that houses will be mass produced? Some

See GOLDSMITH— Page 5

DINNER MEETING

DETROIT CHAPTER, A.I.A.

Wednesday, March 22, 1944
Dinner at 6:30 P. M., Promptly
Program, 8:00 P. M.

Chapter Board
Meets at 3:30 P. M.

Rackham Memorial Building, 100 Farnsworth Ave.
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All Architects Invited

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Speaker: Mr. H. Evert Kincaid

Executive Director, Chicago Plan Commission

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Mr. Kincaid will review the work of his agency since its creation, more than twenty years ago. Exhibits of planning accomplishments and future projects in Chicago will be brought to Detroit by Mr. Kincaid and displayed at the Rackham Building.

Accompanying the speaker will be Mr. John Howard Raftery, A. I. A., of Chicago, director of Chicago's Master Plan Division.

"A master plan for a city is simply an agreement on the part of its citizens, first as to what should be done, and, second, as to how to do it," Mr. Kincaid says.

"It expresses the philosophy of a city's people and is a framework on which to

develop post war plans."

He emphasizes that so-called blighted areas in cities cost taxpayers more in the way of city services than such areas return in taxes. This type of area, he says, is a prime consideration in any future planning.

"In Chicago the blighted area problem is being solved by combined efforts of property owners and city administration officials," Mr. Raftery says.

The talk will be illustrated with colored lantern slides, which together with the exhibition of maps, drawings and photographs, will give a realistic picture of Chicago's planning problems and how it can be related to the solution of problems in other communities.

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THE BILL

Tennessee Chapter, A. I. A., Annual Meeting

April 1, In Knoxville

The Tennessee Architect, News Letter of The Tennessee Chapter A. I. A., announces the Chapter's annual meeting, to be held in Knoxville, on April 1, 1944. Among the interesting items in Vol. 2, No. 2, The News Letter's issue of Feb. 15, 1944, is the following:

Last month we had the honor of receive from Mr. Russell E. Hart, quotations from his recent manuscript "Art Values" and we feel that it should be included in this issue for a twofold reason for its contribution to the subject on architects and engineers and also its literary value. Mr. Hart writes as follows:

"An outstanding example of collaborative work in the field of Architecture is the Tennessee Valley Authority. It is conspicuous because it is a successful experiment in heretofore unachieved collaboration between the two professions, architecture and engineering. There is here a fulfillment of human needs on a vast regional scale comprising parts of seven states. It illustrates the successful use of concrete masonry serving at the same time as both architecture and structure. And finally, the multiple purpose to which the project is dedicated concentrates thereby, at each of the eleven or more plants, fulfillment of multiple needs . . .

Here is structure and architecture achieved at one stroke by joint effort—I had almost said merging—of two distinguished professions. The observer sees and feels both, simultaneously *on* and *under* the 'skin.' 'Firmness and Commodity' have been incorporated not because required by law and the owner but, together with 'Delight' they contribute unconcealed as honored signatories towards a distinctive American Architecture.

Gone are separating lines and traditional nakedness to be 'covered,' for beauty is integral. Consistency and honesty in treatment of mass and surface are conspicuously beautiful both for intrinsic value and absence of mere pose for some other masonry material. Characteristics and limitations of concrete have been intelligently recognized and the finished result bears such evidence of effective collaborative ministrations as to presage more extended adoption of the union."

Iowa Chapter Annual

IOWA CHAPTER, THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, is a handsomely bound mimeographed book, reporting the proceedings of the Chapter's Forty-First Annual Meeting, held in Des Moines, November 30, 1943. Besides by-laws, a list of members, list of committees, personnel and duties; officers, directors and executive committee, the volume contains committee reports and a most interesting and comprehensive report on the Cincinnati Convention of the A. I. A.

Officers elected are: Leonard Wolf, president; William L. Perkins, vice-president; O. G. Woody, treasurer; Burdette Higgins and J. Woolson Brooks, directors.

Reprints from Pencil Points' report on two architectural competitions sponsored by the Kawneer Co., of Niles, Michigan, were found with the volume. An exhibition of the original drawings of the competition was held at the annual meeting.

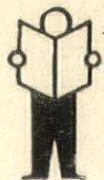
Now that winter has set in with a determined effort to make up for lost time our Aesthetic Director and Inspirer, Mr. Amedeo Leone, packed his bags and headed southward. The southernmost point of these United States didn't hold enough sunshine, so crossing the border, he will spend two weeks in Mexico City where intensive study of Ancient Spanish, Aztec and Modern Mexican Architecture will be pursued. Acapulco will be visited to accumulate rest and suntan with occasional dips in the tepid Pacific Ocean. I know everybody wishes Al a wonderful trip which he deserves.

—S., H & G. News.

* * *

University of Penn., Jan. 15, 1944—Word has been received that the American Group of the Societe des Architectes Diplomes par le Gouvernement (Francais) has again awarded the University Medal to the Department of Architecture for the best record of high awards for the year 1942-43. At the same time James Beswick Francis, who graduated last June, received the Prix d'Emulation for the highest record of any student submitting work in the Beaux Arts judgments during that period. We have been advised that the University Medal will be presented by representatives of the "American Group" to President Gates at the graduation exercises on March 4th; while that to Mr. Francis will be at a special luncheon of the American Group in New York City.

* * *



**IN PHILADELPHIA —
NEARLY EVERYBODY
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Buy more War Stamps from your newspaper boy

GOLDSMITH

(Continued from Page 1)

of them, yes — there were some before the war and there will be more after it — but not in a way to displace the architect or make him an employee of the "Eureka Prefab Home Co."

Prefabricated houses may take the place of the "free plans" of the lumber yard, but very few architects have competed with the lumber yards for the low priced houses. They couldn't afford to give proper service for the miserable fee received.

What about transportation? At first autos were moved from factory to agency on their own wheels, then stacked on freight cars and finally on specially built trucks, but eventually assembly plants were scattered about the country, because it was cheaper to ship "knocked down." Of course, prefabricated houses must be shipped "knocked down" also, and crated. The rates will be higher than for lumber by the car load. I cannot see any great economy to create a rush of buying. The economy would come through large orders — several thousand houses shipped to one buyer. It will take time to develop that sort of market, if it ever eventuates. Meanwhile, with people naturally conservative and most of them wanting a return to "normalcy," which they will not get, the building of architect-planned houses will resume where it left off, while awaiting the manufacture of new prefabricated parts, which will be incorporated as they come — but architects will do the incorporating.

The Architects' Small House Service Bureau tried to solve the problem of architectural services for the small house of low cost, as did the F. H. A. and the H. O. L. C., with a selective plan service, providing limited architectural service. Perhaps prefabrication will succeed in filling this need.

Architecture is not dead. I cannot see prefabricated fireproof schools, churches, university buildings, or even factories. These will not be shipped in panels from a central prefabricating plant. They will continue to be designed individually by architects, using such prefabricated sections as are available and fitting, and as to homes, I question if a large enough percentage of these can be sold through mass production to make mass production worth while.

Now, call me an old fogey. Well, I've unburdened myself on prefabrication without writing the article you seemed to want — or did you? I see you said, "Would like to hear from you on prefabrication." Well, you've heard, but not in publication form. It's merely the sputtering of a man who has been housed up too long and who hates to hear the lamentations of a lot of mourners over a coffin that doesn't contain a corpse. Where is our imagination?

"Imagination is the window through which the soul looks at reality."

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

A Communication from Walter T. Rolfe,
Chairman, A.I.A. Committee on Education

Your A.I.A. Committee on Education extends its encouragement and best wishes and asks your help in strengthening our profession. These are a few of the real contributions each chapter can make to a nationally unified program of education in the broadest sense.

As Chapters and architects without interference with current assignments

(1) We can use the word "architect" wherever and whenever possible. Our contributions as overall planners and coordinators in peacetime or war also need to be made known.

(2) We can make clear to young architects and to the public that competent contemporary architects are business men and technicians as well as creative designers. Modern practice requires a fully rounded service—*aesthetic, structural, mechanical*—and we must be competent in all of them.

(3) The coming expenditure of vast funds in public and private construction affords our profession the most unusual opportunity it may ever have. We need to inculcate in American youth, in our young professional people, and in ourselves as practitioners that educated sense of citizenship, so necessary to the whole broad planning idea. *We can take a much more active and personal interest in civic and local affairs.*

(4) We can urge stimulating speakers to direct an informal public opinion on

- a. Architectural education and practice.
- b. The place of the architect in contemporary life.
- c. The Architect at war.
- d. The modern architect and post-war living.
- e. Replanning and rebuilding our cities and communities (Any others that may apply to your own local situation.)

This program should be co-ordinated with the programs of local and national public relations and publicity committees.

(5) We can take, if we are located where an architectural school is nearby, an active, friendly interest in its welfare, helping to define the needs of the future architect and lending wholesome encouragement to the school.

(6) We can write encouraging letters with constructive suggestions to our national officers and committees of the Institute.

(7) We can take a sincere interest in the young men coming up in the profession. They are our hope of tomorrow and much of their attitude toward our profession and the Institute is a direct result of our treatment of them.

(8) We can remember, as in other well established professions, to keep the constructive professional point of view. Compliment architects in the presence of others. Let us be sure that negative criticism cannot be misinterpreted by the general public, by other architects, or by the other professions.

(9) We can get better acquainted and cooperate with fellow professional practitioners—*engineers, lawyers, specialists*. We can become more active partners in everyday living and in the conduct of professional and other business.

(10) We can establish contact with our state registration or licensing boards and support their efforts to maintain proper standards of qualification for registration.

The ARCHITECT becomes a respected professional person only through his own competence and integrity and his continued and improved efforts to serve the public.

If you have done these things, please accept our gratitude. Your constructive suggestions for a better profession are always welcome.

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David Knickerbacker Boyd

David Knickerbacker Boyd, member Emeritus and Fellow of The American Institute of Architects, collapsed in his Philadelphia office on February 21, and died shortly afterwards in Hahneman Hospital. He was 72 years old.

Mr. Boyd was a graduate of Friends' Central School in Philadelphia and attended the University of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and the Spring Garden Institute.



D. K. BOYD

As executive secretary of the Independence Hall Association, Inc., he was most recently interested in safeguarding historic shrines in Philadelphia and in improving the area around them. He designed the Philadelphia Carnegie Library building and a number of public and private schools and industrial buildings as well as many housing developments.

Mr. Boyd was a lecturer and writer on construction economics, a consultant on building codes and during the last war he was chief of the Materials Information Section of the U. S. Housing Corp., Washington.

Following World War I, he originated and organized the Structural Service Bureau. He was a member of many national and local professional organizations.

Surviving are his wife, Elizabeth, and two daughters, Mrs. Lawrence C. Murdoch and Mrs. Henry P. Borie, both of Philadelphia.

When Peace Comes

"No airy visions, no party doctrines, no party prejudices, no political appetites, no vested interests, must stand in the way of the simple duty of providing beforehand for food, work, and homes . . . These plans must be prepared now, during the war. They must come into action as soon as the victory is won."

—WINSTON CHURCHILL.

Quality Control in City Building

Reprinted from the Journal of Architecture, Engineering and Industry, Vol. 6, Jan., 1944, College of Engineering, The University of Texas, this pamphlet contains a treatise on The Cultural Function of Environmental Planning, by Hugo Leipziger, member of the Post War Reconstruction Committee (Education and Research Subcommittee) of The American Institute of Architects.

Illustrations are of reconstruction plans for European cities and cover controversial approaches. It deals with democracy, science and philosophy in city planning, as well as many other phases.

Detroit Institute of Arts

Monday, March 6, 8:15 p. m. An illustrated lecture on *Etching and the Master Etcher, Rembrandt* by Isabel Weadock, Curator of Prints at the Detroit Institute of Arts, the third in a series of talks on *The Democratic Arts: Engraving, Etching and Lithography*. Miss Weadock will discuss the technique of etching as perfected by Rembrandt and that artist's prowess in depicting Scriptural scenes and landscapes.

Tuesday, March 7, 8:15 p. m. The fourth in the *Film Forum* series: *World War II and After*. The pictures shown will be *Crisis—The Nazi Way*, a camera report on Czecho-Slovakia under the terror of both Hitler and the appeasers, and *The Czechs March On*, a unique film of the Czech soldiers now in exile in Britain. Informal discussion will follow the pictures with Dr. Kathryn Robb of the English Department of Marygrove College serving as chairman.

March 6-March 25. An exhibit of photographs showing various types of architecture under construction and completed in the Willow Run Federal Public Housing areas. Many human interest shots of life at Willow Run are included. First Detroit showing.

Admission to these events is free.

Annual Report, Detroit Department of Buildings

In the Thirty-Third Annual Report of the City of Detroit, Department of Buildings and Safety Engineering, Commissioner Joseph P. Wolff points out that December 31, 1943 marked the Department's Silver Anniversary, adding that, "With its combined kindred activities organized to function as one of the city's governmental units, the department during the past quarter century has more than vindicated the perspicacity of the authors of our present charter. It may be well to mention by way of comparison, that there are relatively few cities in the country that have their governmental units so established and equipped as to render all allied safety inspectional services in one department."

And it goes without saying that we are voicing the opinion of the entire architectural profession hereabouts when we add that no building department in the country has been better administered. We have been singularly fortunate in having a progressive department that has a record of competency, fairness and the ability to keep a building code in step with the times.

Scholarships, College of Architecture and Design University of Michigan

The College of Architecture and Design at the University of Michigan announces the establishment of a scholarship fund of \$25,000 in this college from the Arthur C. Tagge bequest. For the present it is expected that two scholarships, of \$325 each, will be awarded annually.

Candidates may be students in architecture, landscape architecture, painting, or design, and shall have been in residence in this college for at least one semester. Preference will ordinarily be given to advanced students.

The first scholarships will be awarded for the fall term of 1944-45. Application should be made before June 1, 1944 to the Office of the Dean, 207 Architecture Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

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Entered as second-class matter December 9, 1930, at the Post Office at Detroit, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Published Weekly. Subscription Price: 50c per year (Non-members \$4.00) 10 cents per copy.

Volume 18

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, MARCH 14, 1944

No. 11

UNIONISM IN THE PROFESSIONAL RANKS

By Dalton R. Wells, A.I.A.

The subject of unionism in the professional ranks, both Architecture and Engineering, presents today a matter which must be given serious thought, if architectural and engineering employees are at all concerned as to their future as professional men. It is not a matter which can be allowed to run its course in the hope that all will turn out well in the end.

Those who think that way will sooner or later realize that during their period of indifference to this vital issue those furthering the union movement have enlisted a vast number of professional workers into a Union, with promises of betterment in their positions through collective bargaining by Union representatives.



Mr. Wells

This matter was exploded into the open last summer at the Sunflower Ordnance Works at Eudora, Kansas, where a group of more than 100 professional engineers and architects appealed for the right to be represented by their own bargaining group and protested inclusion in a bargaining group represented by the International Federation of Technical Engineers, Architects and Draftsmen's Union, A. F. of L. Local No. 30. The entire sub-professional group working on this project, numbering around 350, voted in the

main to be represented by Local No. 30. The answer to that is easy, and that is not the only such case on record. This entire matter is reported in considerable detail in the July 1943 issue of "Civil Engineering," published monthly by the American Society of Civil Engineers. I quote the two final paragraphs from the article in the July 1943 issue:

"The situation may be summarized somewhat as follows:

"This case very clearly shows that a group dominated by sub-professionals was attempting to establish itself as the bargaining agent for the professional engineer and architect employees; that the professional engineer and architect employees did not wish to be represented and outnumbered by a group of sub-professionals and that to protect themselves it was necessary for them to form a bargaining group of their own. It may be said, too, that there is need for recognition of a situation with which the professionally minded employee has not previously had to deal. As this article goes to press, the WLB Panel in Kansas City has not handed down its decision."

In subsequent issues of "Civil Engineering" there have appeared articles from various sources pertaining to this subject matter. The article in the February 1944 issue is undoubtedly not the last, for this matter is of vital importance to every architect and every engineer employee, to say nothing of its ultimate possible importance to every employing Architect and Engineer. Not even the gist of these various articles can be given here. Every professional employee should digest such articles to apprise himself of the serious thought being given to this matter and to inform himself of the constructive work under way to protect the professions of Architecture and Engineering.

In the February 1944 issue of the Journal of the American Institute of Architects, there appears an article "The A. S. C. E. and Collective Bargaining" by Ezra B. Whitman, President, American Society of Civil Engineers. Also, "Union or Profession?" by Clement J. Freund, Dean of the College of Engineering, University of Detroit. Most certainly the A.I.A., in its official publication, would not have published these two articles by non-members if the subject matter was not of the utmost importance to the future of both professions.

In the November 1943 issue of "The See WELLS, Page 3

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TEmples 2-4900 — 4728 ST. AUBIN.**MEETING**Michigan Chapter
American Society of Heating and
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MONDAY, MARCH 13, 1944

Dinner at 6:30 P. M.

The speaker of the evening will be Mr. James Livermore, Mechanical Engineer, The Detroit Edison Company. He will review a paper which he presented at the Semi-Annual Meeting of the A. S. H. & V. E. in Pittsburgh in June 1943. The subject of his paper is "Study of Actual Versus Predicted Cooling Load on an Air Conditioned System." Some interesting observations made during the test period not included in the formal paper will be discussed.

DEAR TAL:

I am writing you relative to Mr. Chas. B. McGrew's able article on "Housing After the War" appearing in this week's issue of the Mich. Soc. Archts. Bulletin; The article in question was greatly appreciated by the Architectural section of the F. H. A. and myself.

We think it would be a fine public service if you in your official capacity would forward the article to the Readers Digest, or a similar publication having a wide circulation, for the benefit of the general public, who have been greatly misled as to just what to expect in Post-War Housing.

Mr. McGrew, a leading architect, is recognized as an authority on Housing, both here in Detroit, and in Washington, and has had years of experience on the subject of which he has so ably written, and we feel that his analysis on Post-War Housing would be very enlightening and much appreciated by the lay public.—Frank H. Rile, A:I.A.

In conformity with the plan for unification of the Architectural Societies in Michigan, at a meeting held by the West Michigan Division of the Michigan Society of Architects, it being found that more than 80% of the active members of the M. S. A. were also members of the Grand Rapids Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, a resolution was adopted terminating the organization of this division, in accordance with the By-laws passed at the Annual Meeting of the Michigan Society of Architects on April 16, 1943.—Harry L. Mead, Acting Secretary, West Michigan Division, M. S. A.

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A MASTER PLAN

By F. Gordon Pickell, A.I.A.

A City has as many complex problems, as the mind of man can visualize and analyze, but it is, in its primary aspect, one unit functioning in various degrees of good and bad to the welfare of the cooperating whole. There are four minor aspects which are primary in man's needs (a fifth might be listed as the commercial side, but distinct as the thumb is from the four fingers of the hand). These must have a fair balance to support the city's ability to supply a life worthy of what its citizens should have.

First there is the home (housing). 2.—Parks (child-life). 3.—Transportation (Time and nerve saving). 4.—Parking (public car storage). These in total should mean safe foot movement, all simple needs and the common desires of every one. But where are the blueprints for a workable sample of this much desired composition of a modern city life?

To date all efforts to replan or improve our cities have been done on the old pattern, of tinkering with the horse and buggy product, as though our present 40-mile cars could be mixed and used in any quantity with the 4-mile pattern of our ancestors.

There is much talk at present of Master Plans, but for such we must have Master Minds. Where are they to be found? "Curse of our age, that the ideas are so great, and the men so small."

Through a chain of events that could easily have been seen by our "leaders," we are now pouring out millions of lives and treasure to eliminate the devils in the Huns and Japs. Who will say that we cannot afford the cost of putting safeguards on the machines we use, so that our children and the rest of us can be safe? If we have to put separate levels for our wheels and our feet, for the 4-mile and the 40-mile which kills like a war, because they cannot be made to mix, we must do just that.

We submit that the solution to our problem will not come from the traffic engineer, nor from experts in any one line, nor from a scheme to make profits, but from a view of the whole picture where the child shall give the lead. A strangely simple idea for a technical man to advance, but vision is given to the poet and withheld from the practical man. It just works out that way. To care for the least is to care for all.

This, in brief, is the formula, but we must never forget that a minor remedy to a major evil is worse than no remedy at all. Our plan must be organic, no spot treatments, if you please. First the wheels must run free in channels above the foot paths and above parking places. Second, the clearance space for these channels and our housing must be as much park space as we can afford. This is what is nowhere to be found and what

we must have. This plan will give us ribbon neighborhoods with housing insulated from the noise, danger and congestion of our motors and our playgrounds forming a screen and silvan frame to our traffic ways.

For a sample of the typical disjointed approach to the heart of this complex problem I can do no better than quote an editorial from my Manchester Guardian just received (Feb. 11, 1944. The title, "CHILDRENS PLAY-GROUNDS."

"When Wesley was drawing up rules for his school at Kingswood he said that he allowed no time for play because he who plays as a boy will play when he is a man. No school of moralists would take that stern view to-day, but the slow progress we have made in providing playgrounds for children shows that we have treated what everybody now agrees to be an essential need of childhood with deplorable negligence. The coming of the motor age would not have been such a disaster to child life if children had not been driven to find their playgrounds in the streets. This was pointed out in 1936 by an interdepartmental committee on road safety. What is wanted is a large supply of small playgrounds. The Five Million Association, was started to bring home this special need to the public mind. There is a great opportunity for action on these lines now that towns are preparing their reconstruction plans, and the Leeds City Council has set an excellent example in arranging to provide half acre playgrounds at intervals not exceeding half a mile. The secretary of the Five Million Club states that there are at least 5,000,000 children in England and Wales who have no playgrounds within reasonable walking distance of their homes, and he pointed out that most large towns are much better off for bowling greens than for playgrounds. (Manchester, for example, has seventy-nine bowling greens for thirty childrens playground). For two of the pressing problems of child slaughter and of child delinquency, this inexpensive programme is a most obvious remedy."

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BOSTON SOCIETY

In Harvard Hall of Harvard University, on March 8, the Boston Society of Architects had as its guest of honor and speaker His Excellency, Leverett Saltonstall, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He spoke on the subject of "Post War Problems."

Reporting the meeting of Feb. 1, 1944 the B.S.A. 'Duration Bulletin' states:

"An interesting discussion was precipitated when the President called for informal declaration of opinion pertaining to the advisability of changing the name of the Boston Society of Architects to denote the embrace of a wider geographic area. A show of hands seemed to indicate a desire to include the word 'Massachusetts' somewhere in our title. In view of the fact that such a change must follow a prescribed procedure according to the By-Laws, it is thought wise at this time to call to the attention of the members that this subject, after due notice, will formally be brought before them for consideration. Prepare your arguments, and when the time comes, let's hear them.

"That recurrent question of an Institute insignia to pin on our waistcoats has again reared its head. At the request of the President for a show of hands it was indicated that the majority of the members present were favorably inclined to wear such a device. Inquiries are being made to determine the existence of such insignias and if and where they may be obtained. The members will be informed as to the results, if any."

F. L. VENNING

Frank Lotan Venning, 56, an architect who designed many famous churches and university buildings around Chicago, died Feb. 18. Mr. Venning designed the Kent College of Law, the Chicago Medical and Dental Laboratory, the Cloister Apartments, Palmer Square Evangelical Church and the Lutheran Building, as well as many others in the Middle West. Surviving are his widow, Margaret, two daughters, Frances and Lois, and a son, Lt. Jack, now overseas.

William Muirhead, president of the Muirhead Construction Company, Durham, N. C., was elected president of the Associated General Contractors of America at its 25th annual meeting held in Chicago February 19. He succeeds Oscar B. Coblenz, Baltimore, Md. H. A. Dick, Portland, Ore., is the newly elected vice-president, while E. M. Rust was chosen secretary-treasurer.

At the meeting of the Dearborn Historical Society, held the evening of March third, the members listened to a discussion of the design of our state capitols by Professor Emil Lorch. Typical capitol buildings, their evolution, the conditions under which they were designed and erected, and their setting were discussed.

MEETING, DETROIT CHAPTER, A. I. A.

Wednesday, March 22, 1944
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SPEAKER: MR. H. EVERT KINCAID

Executive Director, Chicago Plan Commission
Assisted by MR. HOWARD RAFTERY, A.I.A.
Director, Chicago's Master Plan Division

"Chicago Plans" will be the subject of Mr. Kincaid's address. He will speak of the progress which has been achieved to date by the Chicago Plan Commission toward the evolution of a Master Plan for Chicago. Important among the details of the planning program will be the plans on the development of an expressway system; improvement of subdivision standards and design; suggested development of areas now vacant; proposals for rebuilding blighted areas; sketches on airport facilities; and a complete outline on the use of land within the City of Chicago. All of this material will be illustrated with the aid of kodachrome slides to graphically display the maps, charts, and photographs bearing on the subject.

Mr. J. Howard Raftery, A.I.A., Director of the Master Plan Division on the staff of the Chicago Plan Commission, will accompany and assist Mr. Kincaid.

The Chicago planners are bringing with them an exhibit illustrating the various parts of the Master Plan. The Chicago planning program appears to be parallel in many respects to the very significant work being done by the Detroit Plan Commission, and it will be interesting to compare notes on two large industrial centers which are blueprinting their futures.

H. Evert Kincaid became Executive Director of the Chicago Plan Commission on July 1, 1943. He had been serving as Acting Executive Director since early last January when the former Director, T. T. McCrosky, was granted leave of absence to accept a commission as a Lieutenant Commander in the U. S. Naval Reserve.

Mr. Kincaid was graduated from the University of Illinois in city planning and landscape engineering. Shortly thereafter he became associated with Harland Bartholomew of St. Louis, nationally-known city planner. In this association he participated in the preparation of comprehensive plans for the cities of Springfield, Missouri, and Antonio, Texas; and other cities in the United States.

Later he became City Planning Engineer and Director of Public Works in

the City of San Antonio, Texas, continuing in this capacity for several years.

Mr. Kincaid was Chief Land Planning Consultant for the Federal Housing Administration for a period of five years, supervising and directing the FHA land planning activities in the eleven mid-western states with Chicago as his headquarters. This work included consultation with subdividers and builders in the planning and development of new subdivisions and housing projects and with municipalities regarding zoning and subdivision control regulations.

In November 1941 he resigned his position with FHA to become director of the Master Plan Division of the Chicago Plan Commission. It was under his leadership of this division that most of the major physical phases of the emerging Master Plan were initiated and developed.

Mr. J. Howard Raftery, A.I.A., Director of the Master Plan Division of the Chicago Plan Commission, is a graduate of Princeton University. He completed post-graduate work at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and spent some years of study in France and at the American Academy at Rome. His training has been in architecture, town planning, engineering, economics, and political procedure. For 15 years prior to 1942, he was associated with the architectural firm of Frazier and Raftery, Chicago.

Mr. Raftery is a member of the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and is well known in the architectural and construction fields. He has distinguished himself as well in the field of graphic arts. His lithographs of historical Chicago structures and scenes are now included in many important collections, among them the Chicago Historical Society, the Rosenwald Collection, and the Chicago Art Institute. His work has been exhibited in Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, and in Carnegie International Exhibition.

The Director of the Master Plan is a World War veteran, having seen extensive service with the A.E.F. Air Force. After completing his training

with the Royal Air Force, he served on active duty over the front lines with the 8th Aero Squadron, U. S. Army, under the command of Captain John Gilbert Winant, now Ambassador to Great Britain.

WELLS (Cont. from Page 1)

Foundation," official publication of the Engineering Society of Detroit, there appeared an article "Unionism Has Become An Issue In Engineering," by Dean Freund, which was reprinted in the December 28th issue of the "Weekly Bulletin" of the Michigan Society of Architects. This article brought forth an article in the January 18th issue of the "Weekly Bulletin" entitled "Unionism in Engineering." I have no quarrel with the author of this latter named article, but I became more and more impressed as I read and reread this article that the author was grossly uninformed and knew not of the issue confronting the professions. Unfortunately, he made it a personal matter between himself and Dean Freund, rather than an expression of opinion of a matter so vital to the professions as a whole—an open discussion of the merits and demerits of unionism for the professional worker. It is to be hoped that the author just referred to, if he reads this article, will inform himself fully by reading the various articles mentioned. When he learns that many of the best known Architects and Engineers throughout this broad land are deeply concerned in this matter, I feel sure that he and those who may think and feel as he does (this gained from his article) will have been converted to more rational thinking.

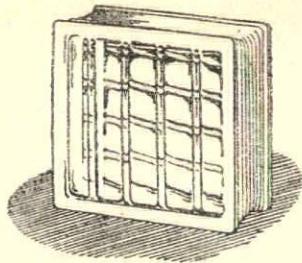
Unions were fostered by the unscrupulous employers, who bled the worker of the last drop of blood in his veins. Men were obliged to organize to protect themselves. Unfortunately, there still exist a few of that old school, but they are few and far between. The majority of employers are cooperative and have the best interests of their employees at heart. The employee who puts forth his best efforts and is efficient, needs no assistance from any Union to better his social and financial relations with his employer. The good, bad and indifferent under Union rules are all in the same category. No matter how I look at it I cannot see the Union as any benefit whatsoever to the professional worker. The trend of the times is unionism, so it may be that each professional worker will soon have to carry a card and wear a button on the side of his hat. If it comes to that, then have it so that a committee, wholly of professional workers, is the bargaining agent, and not a committee of sub-professional workers. Far better would it be that each professional worker did his own bargaining. That is probably wishful thinking today, until the Wagner Labor Relations Act is amended.



Mr. Kincaid



Mr. Raftery



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WEEKLY BULLETIN

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Entered as second-class matter December 9, 1930, at the Post Office at Detroit, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Published Weekly. Subscription Price: 50c per year (Non-members \$4.00) 10 cents per copy.

Volume 18

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, MARCH 21, 1944

No. 12

ASHTON ASKS BROAD OUTLOOK

A.I.A. President Says Architects Should Lead Planning

Raymond J. Ashton of Salt Lake City, speaking at Providence, R. I., March 8, urged architects to work for the interests of their community as a whole in postwar planning "and not to sit tight and consider only architectural problems."

He was a speaker at a New England regional conference of The American Institute of Architects, held under the auspices of the Rhode Island Chapter of the Institute.

Detroit Chapter, A.I.A.

Dinner Meeting

Wed., March 22, 6:30 P. M.

See two preceding issues of The Bulletin for complete announcement.

Reservations necessary for dinner.

All Architects and guests welcome at program, 8:00 p. m., without reservations.

Declaring that postwar planning was becoming "a football that's being kicked around by everybody," he urged the architects to step in and take leadership. He said that in some cities, notably Salt Lake City and Memphis, authorities have given local architects a prominent place on their postwar planning commissions.

He expressed the opinion that the country is headed toward a saner viewpoint on planning problems and that architects should "add the weight of their judgment to community problems."

Mr. Ashton discussed relations of architects to Governmental agencies, and said many members of the profession had won praise from officials of the Army and Navy and other Government agencies for their part in war work.



Mr. Ashton

THEY MINISTER TO THE PEOPLE

By Goldwin Goldsmith, F.A.I.A.

The Texas Issue of the Weekly Bulletin just received! 'Me und Walter' nearly fill it. Since you published what I said was not an article, I am glad you included the part that said so. I did not even re-read what I had written as I had no thought that it would be published.

Also I have received three issues together, two dealing with unionism, one with certain paragraphs marked. I had read Freund's article before. I like his quotation from Dr. Bush: "In every one of the professional groups, however, will be found the initial central theme intact—they minister to the people." This is truest, of course, of the medical profession, and even they have members who minister solely to their own pocket books.

I think, also, that it is truer of architects than of lawyers. There is, however, a preliminary period when the architect must give serious consideration to his pocket book. In the early days of his practice it is most important that he make a living or he will never be able to let his ministry to the people be uppermost in his mind. However,

even in these days of early struggle for mere existence, his professional mind will make his ministry to the people an important element in his work. Only the union type of mind will be wholly controlled by personal selfishness.

Young Mr. Mather's reply to Dean Freund illustrates this union type of mind. He speaks of "this type of Jesuit mind. Its threats of damnation, excommunication, interdict, etc." He says: "The fundamental law of this country is clear; a man shall not be discriminated against for race, creed, color or for political beliefs in conformity with the

John Hutchins Cady, president of the local chapter, presided. Brief talks were given by Douglas W. Orr, of New Haven, regional director; Alexander Hoyle, vice-president of the Boston chapter of the Institute, and Charles W. Walker, of Bridgeport, president of the Connecticut chapter. A forum discussion was led by Mr. Orr. Other members of the Institute from Massachusetts and Connecticut were present.

Constitution." Admitted. But is he not discriminating against Dr. Freund's political belief, if that term may be used, that unionism is antagonistic to professionalism? Apparently he would hold his own union point of view and deny Dr. Freund the right to his belief. Because of his opposite point of view, Dr. Freund has "this type of Jesuit mind!" Since when has a Jesuit type of mind believed in ministry to "the people?"

Mather considers Freund's statement that one must choose between being a

See GOLDSMITH—Page 3

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ARCHITECTONICS

The Bulletin of the Grand Rapids Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is a reprint of a mimeographed sheet. We welcome back into the field a most pithy production.

Relax Hughes! The purpose of this bulletin is not to put Tal Hughes out of business (as if anyone could) or to compete with the grandest of all architectural publications, the Bulletin of the Michigan Society of Architects. But since the Grand Rapids Chapter is meeting only once in every two months and maybe we'd better reconsider that and meet oftener—some method of keeping the members in touch with what is cooking is an obvious need. This is it.

Architectonics, for the benefit of people who just came in after the performance started, was the name of a little magazine published by the old Architectural Club of Grand Rapids from September, 1927 to January, 1929. You remember 1929, don't you? It started out as a mimeographed sheet and ended up as a 28-page printed magazine. This one isn't going to do that; fun is fun but running magazines is work. The big advantage of the title *ARCHITECTONICS* is that nobody outside the profession knows what it means; most of them think it is some sort of patent medicine—the male equivalent of Peruna, possibly.

The Annual Election resulted in the following: President, Roger Allen; Vice-president, Louis C. Kingscott; Secretary-Treasurer, Harry L. Mead; Directors, Adrian N. Langius and Kenneth C. Welch.

Gus Langius did a swell job of heading the chapter through two difficult years and his regime ended with the chapter in the best shape in its history. In his dual capacity as Director of the State Building and Construction Division and Acting Director of the Michigan Planning Commission, Gus has gone to bat for the private practitioner year in and year out, in refreshing contrast with certain other public officials in some of our city governments. The profession in Michigan owes Gus a tremendous debt of gratitude and the state administration is to be congratulated on being able to avail itself of the services of a man who is not only an able architect but a skilled administrator.

The Next Meeting will be held on Friday, March 17th, at 6:30 p. m., in the Green Room of the Park-American Hotel in Kalamazoo. This is a very important meeting. The regional director of the A.I.A., our old friend Charles F. Cellarius of Cincinnati, will be present. Please mail back to Mr. Mead the enclosed return post card at once, and please make every effort to be present. The dinner will cost only \$1 (see following paragraph) and since March 17th, while falling on Friday, is also St. Pat-

EDSEL FORD ESTATE FOR SALE

The Edsel B. Ford estate on Lake St. Clair, Grosse Pointe Shores, is being offered for sale. The price asked is \$500,000. This undoubtedly represents a mere fraction of its original cost.

The property, 14.5 miles northeast of downtown Detroit, consists of more than 65 acres, beautifully landscaped, with a shoreline of more than 3,000 feet. It includes a swimming pool, tennis courts, formal gardens, lily pond, deep lagoon, vegetable garden and other appurtenances of a wealthy man's home.

Main buildings, erected in 1926-27 are designed in the manner of the rambling Cotswold houses of the wool-growing district of England.

In planning their home, the Fords made several visits to England, and engaged the services of the late Albert Kahn, F. A. I. A., to design and build the home with an exterior of briar hill sandstone, and reinforced concrete construction.

Stones for the roof were imported from England, and expert British workmen were also brought over to split the stones and lay them on the roof in authentic Cotswold manner. A proportion of old stones from demolished buildings were mixed with the new stones to obtain the desired weathered effect.

The entire stairway, of weathered oak; huge fireplaces, panelling and other materials, some hundreds of years old, were also brought over from England and carefully reassembled in the new home.

Besides the main residence, buildings include a gate lodge, recreation house, power house, boat house, greenhouse, playhouse, kennel and tool shed. The swimming pool is 40 by 132 feet.

Mrs. Ford is still in residence at the estate. She also has a summer home at Bar Harbor, Maine.

rick's day, such eminent Catholic authorities as my wife, Harry Mead, Clair Ditchy and Father Robert W. Bogg assure me that bead-pushers (Mr. Ditchy's expressive phrase) can eat all the meat they want to. Or all they can get, that is. Let's have a real turnout.

One Buck Meals will be the order of the day hereafter. Each member attending will pay \$1 only; the Chapter will pay the balance, whatever it is, out of chapter funds. This has two great advantages; the member who attends will get a \$1.75 dinner for \$1; and the member who doesn't attend will pay for the dinners of his more conscientious comrades.

We Deeply Regret to announce that our fellow member Carl J. Rudine, now on duty on a destroyer escort, recently lost his mother. Member John Vanden Bogert is recuperating at his home following an operation for hernia.

More Next Month—we're all outta paper. See you at Kalamazoo. March 1, 1944.

ROGER ALLEN

READERS' VIEWPOINT

State Needs New Capitol

From the Ann Arbor News, Feb. 29, 1944.

Editor, Ann Arbor News:

Recently the writer read with considerable interest a suggestion, originating in Lansing, that we ought to have a new state capitol. It was unofficial and treated rather lightly because of its being a remote possibility. Remote, to be sure, but isn't this a good time to start the ball rolling? There will come a time when civilian and municipal building will replace military construction and the need in this case is obvious to anyone who visits Lansing. And, the need extends further than just the building. The location of the capitol, the city as a whole, leaves something to be desired.

Our present capitol was no doubt much admired by our forefathers, among them the writer's grandfather who served on the legislature. It was ornate and pretentious—it symbolized grandeur—but it never was good looking. Were it a century older, and were it a gem of colonial design like the capitols of Vermont or Virginia, we might well have cause to be sentimental about this edifice. However, it was built at exactly the wrong time, the scarecrow period of American architecture, when taste was at a very low ebb, along with a number of other state capitols.

Originally too, the site was a commanding one. The slender metallic dome—it is really shaped more like a spire—dominated the skyline and told the approaching visitor miles to the east that here was the seat of Michigan's government. That would still be true if the city of Lansing, and the State authorities, had followed a constructive zoning program—a recent subject of grief in Ann Arbor—but business buildings were allowed to creep in. Now, several skyscrapers ascend heavenward right opposite the capitol park and completely steal the show.

There was once a city plan formulated for Lansing which involved rebuilding the capitol at a point some distance to the west on Michigan Avenue. Perhaps this plan should be reconsidered, or perhaps some entirely new city plan drawn up locating the capitol at some appropriate site along the Grand river. At any rate the writer believes thought should be given to these things now and the foundations laid so that when we are again blessed with PEACE, Michigan can develop a capital city and capitol building that will be a credit and a source of pride to the state.

W. A. BLAIR

At the Main Library in Detroit, March 20-25: First Detroit showing of a photographic exhibit of various types of architecture under construction and completed in the Willow Run Federal Public Housing areas. Many human interest shots of life at Willow Run are included. Admission is free.

TIEDEMAN NEW WPB DIRECTOR FOR DETROIT REGION

Appointment of Carsten Tiedeman as Regional Director of the War Production Board's Detroit region, was announced today in Washington by Donald M. Nelson, chairman of the War Production Board.

Tiedeman succeeds L. W. Welch, who has served as acting director since the first of November, in conjunction with his duties as a member of the WPB staff in Washington.

Tiedeman was vice president and general credit manager of Universal Credit Co., Detroit, nationally known automobile finance company, from 1936 to Jan. 1, 1943. He was one of the first to join the company at the time of its formation in 1928, and played a major role in establishing a nationwide business which at one time operated through more than 250 branch offices. Before joining Universal Credit Co., he managed a small finance company following his attendance at Princeton University. For the past year he has been a special representative and consultant for the Gear Grinding Machine Co. of Detroit.

Tiedeman is a director of Hudson Motor Car Co., and is active civically, being a director of the American Red Cross. He headed the industrial section in the 1943 Red Cross campaign. He resides at 56 Kenwood Road, Grosse Pointe Farms.

Tiedeman's appointment bears the endorsement of Ernest C. Kanzler and Daniel J. Hutchins, both former Detroit regional directors of the War Production Board. Kanzler said Tiedeman's appointment was "a splendid choice and both Hutchins and I will back him to the limit." Expressions of approval of the appointment were made by automotive manufacturers, the Detroit Board of Commerce, Detroit Clearing House association, high military officials, and others.

Welch is returning to Avery Farm Machinery Co., Peoria, Ill., of which he is president and general manager, and will continue to be used on special assignments by Washington WPB.

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A REPORTER AT LARGE

Frank Stanton in The Monthly Bulletin, Washington State Chapter, A.I.A.

We were invited to write this column because the Editor likes the BULLETIN to have four pages and usually lacks stuff to fill up the space between here and the bottom of page four. He came right out and said this, with disarming frankness, at the Annual Meeting. However, this isn't the first time we have been asked to be a filler-upper. Early in our alleged career, we joined an architectural fraternity and found out after initiation that we were bid because the brothers were in desperate financial straits and needed members to fill up the house. This time we have no illusions of grandeur, so none will be shattered. If you haven't any about the quality of the copy to follow, we shall get along very nicely.

First of all you must understand that the views expressed by this reporter are not necessarily those of the Institute, the Chapter, the BULLETIN, the Editor, or of this reporter.

As a background, a reporter must have been around. On that score at least, it looks like our selection was little less than a stroke of genius. We spent our childhood playing around the statue of Booker T. Washington in Sherman Park, Atlanta. When we were twelve, our parents moved to California, we decided to go with them, and there saw our first Republican. Six years later we were starting in a Milwaukee office, eagerly assimilating Tuetic culture and products, forming habits which succeeding years at a near-eastern university intensified rather than corrected. We got out to Puget Sound because our wife's uncle was mayor or something of Olympia, a big public job was coming up, and he put the bee on Joe Wohleb to hire us.

We continue to get around. Our present field extends from J. L. Holmes' nifty little joint up in the regrade down to Naramore, Bain, Brady, Grainger & Johanson's (and all possible permutations and combinations thereof) not far this side of the Tacoma city limits. And from the purified, smoke-free Maloney stratosphere out beyond the Aurora Borealis back to J. P. Jones' tobacco-fogged, tradition-rich drafting room facing toward the setting sun. We hope to bring you the chit-chat from these offices, and the ones in between, and shall do all we can to keep the peace, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare. We hold this truth to be self-evident: All that goes on in architects' offices ain't architecture. But sex will not be allowed to raise its ugly head in this column. On the other hand, we shall actually encourage Love Interest. This, alas, along with a lot of other important items, always gets left out of a specification.

We deeply appreciate your kindness in taking us back into the fold after the long years as a prodigal from the Chapter. More than this, we value your forgiveness for the time we proved deserter to the architectural cause and did that stretch in the governmental agency. Providence and our own conscience have not been so generous. As punishment for this awful moral lapse, we

seem, like the ghost of Mr. Hamlet, Sr., "Doomed for a certain term to work the night

And for the day confined to fast in fires Till the foul crimes done in our days of office

Are burnt and purged away."

Specifically, this refers to the burning up we get in McClelland-Jones and Stuart-Durham's delightful, invigorating, smoky, ribald drafting room air; to the purging of Thiry's heart-breaking and back-breaking charettes which, for all their agony, are grand beyond compare, adventures of the first sop, razzle-dazzles superb and elegant, circuses in forty rings.

Things we'll never forget, or quite understand: Cherub Kirk's lusty singing of our favorite ditty whilst drawing at record speed. Long-driving Doc Brady arguing for golf strokes. That taxi ride out to the course with Steve Richardson. Warren Hathaway's continued vigor on a bird-like diet. Jack Sproule's near miss of his train going east. Ted Jacobsen at a cocktail party, smothered by attentive women. Hank Olschewsky's droll stories. Arthur Loveless' dispassionate showing of slides of Bali women. Norm Fox's easy handling of a marvelous rendering. Dr. Waldo Christenson Christopolis re-shingling his entire roof after a hard day at Kelley's pool hall.

If you didn't see your name here this time, look for it next month.

Massachusetts Ready for War's End

Governor Tells Architects

If the war should end today, \$100,000,000 for state and municipal improvements would be forthcoming without "hardship and without increasing the taxes," Gov. Saltonstall told the Boston Society of Architects at a dinner in his honor on March 8. The governor declared that throughout the nation a total of \$2,500,000,000 could be made available for post-war improvements without federal aid to the states.

"If we are to have states' rights and responsibilities, we must square our shoulders and do the job without any help from the federal government," he said.

He declared that to continue the present standard of living a great amount of post-war planning would be necessary and told the architects that men in their positions could start planning now. He said he believed the necessity of another WPA was remote, since private industry would, in all probability, take up the slack of post-war unemployment.

GOLDSMITH

(Continued from page 1)

union man or a professional man a threat of being excommunicated from the profession. It is not a threat. It is a statement that the man who adopts the union mind of personal selfishness cannot well later adopt the professional mind of personal service.

That unions have a place in securing better working conditions from employers with "business minds" also selfish I willingly grant. That some architects who cannot be classed as professional minded under-pay their draftsmen I also grant. Nor do I consider it selfish to try to secure better pay or better working conditions when these are inadequate. But do unions stop there? Will Mr. Mather want his unionized draftsmen to strike when their employer discharges an unfit employee, or one who unfits himself for his work by drunkenness, or one who accepts graft from a contractor and lets him get away with unsatisfactory work? (Now don't twist this. Not all contractors are crooks. By no means. In my practice I was able to trust all but one or two contractors). Yet unions have struck for just such unfair reasons.

Mr. Mather's classification of union membership with membership in a Masonic Lodge, Kiwanis Club, etc., is typical of his reasoning. Do Masonic Lodges, Kiwanis, Rotary, etc., and especially a "National Association for the Advancement of Colored People," work only for their own interests, or are they not fundamentally striving to "minister to the people?"

The Principles of Practice of The American Institute of Architects states: "The profession of architecture calls for men of the highest integrity . . . his (the Architect's) honesty of purpose must be above suspicion . . . his advice must be absolutely disinterested . . . he has moral responsibilities to his professional associates and subordinates . . . finally he is engaged in a profession which carries with it grave responsibility to the public."

Have the unions any such principles? Is that the attitude of the union mind? Is not Mr. Mather's term "Jesuit mind" far more applicable to the unions than to the professional group? Is not the union attitude a threat "of damnation, excommunication" and of destruction of the employer's business if the employer does not submit to the dictation of the union? Again let me point out that I am referring to those acts of dictation which are against the "interests of the people," such as the strikes which have delayed the war program on such inadequate grounds as the discharge of an incompetent foreman, the jurisdictional strikes and other flimsy and dictatorial reasons.

I am reminded of a recent cartoon in which a soldier in his fox hole is looking back at a striker and saying: "A fine pal you turned out to be."

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For complete details see *Sweet's Catalog*, Vol. 18, Page 13

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Entered as second-class matter December 9, 1930, at the Post Office at Detroit, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Published Weekly. Subscription Price: 50c per year (Non-members \$4.00) 10 cents per copy.

Volume 18

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, MARCH 28, 1944

No. 13

THE DETROIT PARKWAY

By F. Gordon Pickell, A.I.A.

Where wheels can run free at 40 miles per hour and pedestrians are safe at four miles per hour. Where children can play unguarded and home life has privacy, with easy access to city amenities, there will be a true conversion of our culture, and city life can grow urbane.

When modern progress has made it necessary to find a new pattern, a new solution to the problems that our mechanical gadgets have thrust upon us, we must grow unorthodox and use our new techniques, untrammelled as far as we can afford, elbow room, the easement and right of ways to give the channels and free movement that our expanding life demands, and city life can grow urban.

To become entangled politically and smothered in taxes, adding more and more

restrictions to free enterprise, will only bring our downfall and chaos. The alternative is to join forces that have vision and the purpose to not only save what we have, but to save it as it only can be saved, by constantly replacing it with something better.



Pickell

In the depression decade of the thirties we lost, in the United States, a total of 250 billion dollars worth of production values, below what we could have expected as normal production. The war cost, we hope, will reach no such figure, but whatever the public debt does amount to, when the war is won, it will only be liquidated by a bold policy of new wealth production,

of which housing and transportation must form a major part.

We are fortunate that our building will be rebuilding, instead of replacing bombed-out areas. The planning of most of our cities is so hopelessly confused that it should be removed and, if we are to expect any joy or pride from future living in them, it is high time that we start that American push which has done so much in the past and is now showing itself in our present war effort.

There is a difference to be taken into consideration in comparing the past with the present. Up to now we have had plenty of "raw land" and immigrants with a willingness to work and with open minds. Now the land and the minds with their piecemeal, disjointed attachments must be handled with the new force of combined social planning, which will coordinate our new technical

knowledge and apply it to a progressive loosening of the city's tightly-woven tissue of streets, by the alteration of rural and urban strips, which will lead from the center of the city to the open country.

Fortunately, this new conception of city planning lends itself to easy illustration and while words and arguments may be soon forgotten, pictures of things desired have a way of remaining in one's mind. Where there is sufficient will a way can be found to make man's desires come true.

Where will the money come from? Is an interesting question, especially at this time, when idle funds go into war bonds or pile up, awaiting the time when capital wealth can again get the green production light. When peace comes and we can again turn our labor and materials into production of useful things the amount of well-studied preparation that we have done in the meantime will determine the value and security that our money will buy. We can waste our money on leaf-raking, or use it to rebuild our city. For the first we need only hands and rakes, no plans are needed, plans, studied with the utmost care, are needed to find the best way to rebuild our urban centers,

See PARKWAY—Page 5

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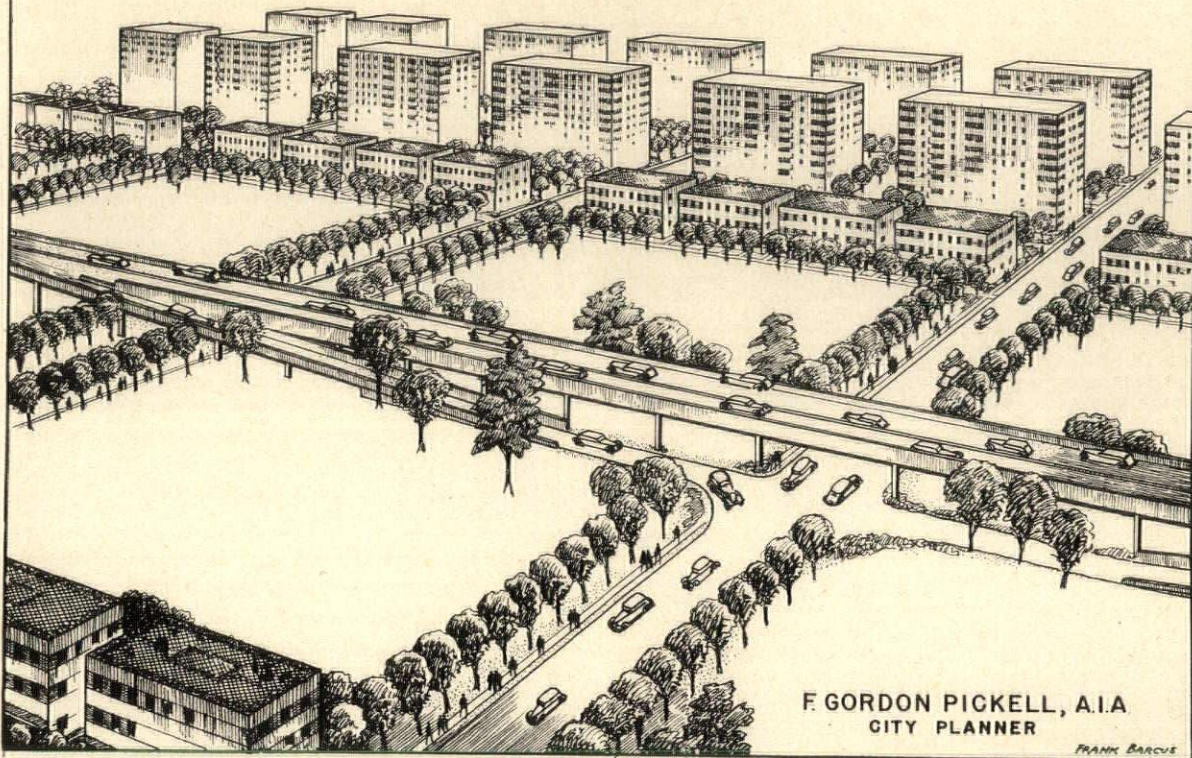
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PICKELL

(Continued from Page 1)

and much of our work will be experimental, at that.

Since at least ten per cent of play space must be provided, accessible to all housing areas, and such provision means government services, adding value to surrounding land, here is one subsidy, suitable to promoting the redevelopment, which will in turn add new assessment values to repay much of the cost.

While federal tax free bonds are being suggested as a worthwhile stimulant to housing financing, the amount of assistance could not be compared to the help that could be gained by remedying some short-sighted restrictions now in effect. Individuals are quite helpless against this, but large-scale building organizations need not put up with such conditions as The American Institute of Architects and others have been calling to our attention.

Devaluation or revaluation of land in slum areas and the problem of taxes offers a hard set of problems that are not safe to let slide. Reassembly of land titles is a necessary part of replanning and much study, and possibly experiment, is needed to find the best way.

Benefits from improved transportation always add new values to sites adjoining but can work much harm if leading to land speculation. We have had plenty of lessons in the past to warn us to be on our guard against that kind of gambling.

To venture on our ability to find a

better form for our city fabric of over cluttered streets is no gamble. It is the plan of good business which is necessary, to save the values we now have, and the road we must travel to find city life worth living.

DETROIT CHAPTER, A.I.A. COMMITTEES, 1944

(The first-named member is Chairman)

MEMBERSHIP (Incl. Activities with Student Chapters)—Hughes, McConkey, Hyde.

PRACTICE (Incl. Activities with State Registration and Schedule of Charges)—Stanton, Bauer, Hewlett, Herman, Kenneth Black, Fairbrother.

RELATIONS WITH CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY—Diehl, Eisen, Lentz.

PUBLIC RELATIONS—Harley, Ditchy, Leinweber, Herman.

EDUCATION (Also counselors to Detroit Engineering Society)—Stanton, Pellerin, Muehlman.

PUBLIC INFORMATION—Hughes, Pilafian.

ALLIED ARTS—Swanson, Luckenbach.

CIVIC DESIGN—Frantz, Hebrard, Saarinen.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

UNIFICATION—Ditchy, Thornton, Black.

ARCHITECTURAL CLINIC AT U. OF M.—Brigham.

LIAISON OFFICER, PRODUCERS' COUNCIL & ENGINEERING SOCIETY OF DETROIT—Diehl.

CHAPTER HISTORY—Burrowes, Ditchy, Lorch, Mason, Rowland.

POSTWAR ACTIVITY—Gamber, Hyde.

MAYOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO CITY PLAN COMMISSION—Kapp, Herman.

WAYNE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL—Kapp.

WASHINGTON, D. C., PLANNING—Kapp.

DETROIT ARCH. CIVIC DESIGN GROUP—Gamber, Stirton, Pickens, Pilafian.

FOR SALE

Architects' surveying instrument (level and transit), with tripod and target. This instrument is in good condition, having been used very little. This instrument is for sale by Mrs. John W. Case, c/o Dr. Parker, Utica, Mich., who also has for sale a large drawing table.

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MICHIGAN ALLOTS 5 MILLION FOR STATE PLANNING

Michigan legislators, meeting in special session, recently proposed to set up a 5 million dollar post war planning fund to be released on a matched basis to cities, villages, counties and school districts to meet immediate costs of mapping post-war projects. The measure passed the house by a 77-5 vote after failure of a move to provide for financing construction as well as planning.

County road commissioners would be allowed 1 million for survey, plans and specifications for highway projects; another million would go to cities, villages, and townships for planning public works, and the remainder to local governments for all types of projects.

Purchase of recreational lands, hardwood forests, and similar areas near populous centers was provided for in another 5 million appropriation.

Acquisition of a site in Lansing for another state office building would be sanctioned by a measure giving the administrative board authority to purchase or condemn either one of two tracts directly back of the present capital or of the present office building.

Appropriations were made for the conservation and agriculture departments; banking, insurance, and educational boards; and bills were considered correcting oversights in 1943 legislation, veterans' affairs, juvenile delinquency, school aid and taxes.

This legislation and the appropriations made by the State of Michigan means that the State can begin immediately, along with all the governmental sub-divisions, to do a definite and specific job of preparing plans, ready for actual construction following cessation of hostilities.

Evidently Michigan legislative sessions, while special and streamlined, were not content to be limited to a single legislative problem, but were committed to reducing to practical terms all of the vague planning talk which has been so freely indulged in for the past several months.

Only through specific appropriations for specific purposes can we hope to get the business of planning moved along to that stage where it is possible to start digging within a few days after victory. That must be the goal.

Auditor General Vernon J. Brown, the governor's representative on the Capitol Planning Commission, has proposed that a competition be held among architects to obtain the best plans for a proposed new State office building.

Brown suggested that if the Legislature votes funds for the structure the competition be held under established rules of architectural organizations.

SCHOLARSHIPS, COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

The College of Architecture and Design at the University of Michigan announces the establishment of a scholarship fund of \$25,000 in this college from the Arthur C. Tagge bequest. For the present it is expected that two scholarships, of \$325 each, will be awarded annually.

Candidates may be students in architecture, landscape architecture, painting, or design, and shall have been in residence in this college for at least one semester. Preference will ordinarily be given to advanced students.

The first scholarships will be awarded for the fall term of 1944-45. Application should be made before June 1, 1944 to the Office of the Dean, 207 Architecture Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

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William Edward Kapp, president of the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A., has mailed letters for the Red Cross Drive. This campaign ends March 31, so if you haven't made your contribution please do so at once.

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ARCHITECT TODAY MUST BE PHILOSOPHER

Mendelsohn Comments on Present Day Unusual Conditions

Eric Mendelsohn, A.I.A., eminent architect and author, returning from a lecture tour, spent several days in Detroit last week. His series of lectures at American Universities, being published by the University of California.

Mr. Mendelsohn, a resident of Westchester County, N. Y., and member of the New York Chapter of The American Institute of Architects, was a speaker before the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A., in April of 1942, under the joint auspices of the Metropolitan Art Association. His book, "A Contemporary Philosophy of Architecture," is now in preparation.

Mr. Frank Lloyd Wright, whom Mr. Mendelsohn considers "the greatest of them all," is likely to have his first job built in New York, the Museum of Non-Objective Art, says Mr. Mendelsohn.

"I even like his Johnson's Wax job, in spite of the criticisms that is leaks, etc.," he said. "Such things were said about Wren's churches but, nevertheless, they were great architecture."

"Architecture in 1944 is not a matter of reconstruction but of re-creation. The architect must be much more than a designer of buildings. He must be a philosopher."

As to our claims for high standards of living, he said, "as long as a nation is tolerant of the majority living in sub-standard conditions, this is not democracy."

In passing through Burlington, Iowa, he was so pleased with the freshness, beauty and delightfulness of the new railway station he sent a congratulatory telegram to the railroads' executive offices.

Detroit Plan Commission Considering Consultants

The Detroit City Plan Commission is considering the retention of an architect, landscape architect or engineer as a consultant on a contractual basis for certain planning studies relative to the general arrangements of and integration into the Master Plan of a civic center in the City of Detroit. The Commission would like to be informed of practitioners in these fields who are interested in accepting such an assignment and who feel they are adequately equipped to handle this type of work.

The Commission proposes to select a Consultant based upon his professional attainments, experience and office and staff facilities, after which matters of fee and other details of a contract will be negotiated.

Those interested should communicate with the City Planner-Secretary at 601 Water Board Building, Detroit, specifying experience, comparable jobs done, and office and staff facilities available for the services. Replies received by April 1st will be considered by the Commission.

More of That Conversation

Editor's Note: The following is an excerpt from the plan entitled "Architects' Convention Piece" in the Weekly Bulletin for February 8, 1943. The quotation is from a remark by the eminent Latvian architect-refugee, Anonymus.

"Have you heard about the new drafting table that has been invented by my good friend Hessa Card in Vienna? It operates by pedals with the feet so that instead of having the drafting board steady and moving the pencil about while drawing, you hold the pencil steady and move the drafting board back and forth and from side to side. It is still in what you call the experimental stage because on account of the war Hessa hasn't been able to get materials to work out a suitable mechanism for drawing the curves. But someday he will get it. Hessa says it will practically eliminate draftman's elbows." In connection with the above excerpt, we have received the following letter:

Bulletin:

I wish to announce that because of the unusual interest displayed by the profession in the new type of drafting table described in my "Conversation Piece" in the Bulletin recently, I am forming a company to negotiate with the inventor, Hessa Card, architect of Vienna, Austria, for the exclusive American sales rights.

Mr. Clement W. Fairweather, F. A. I. A., of Metuchen, New Jersey, has been designated as Eastern Distributor, and as a special introductory offer we plan to give a sample table free with each set of plans for an Allen-Fairweather Plystone house. Mr. Fairweather is attempting, with the assistance of the Red Cross, to communicate with Mr. Card for the purpose of suggesting the inclusion of a push button for "Thinking," which will not only completely eliminate brain fever among architects, but will, it is hoped, eliminate the architect as well.

There must be thousands of persons who have a suppressed desire to be an architect. If you count housewives who are making single line drawings of house plans without any space for stairways and with fireplaces six inches thick and two feet long, the number would run into the millions.

Imagine what a boon this table will be to such individuals! To simply sit down with pencil hopefully poised, push the "Thinking" button and then manipulate the foot pedals while the design appears miraculously on the paper before you! It is simply astounding!! Even now, Mr. Fairweather is contemplating various subdivisions of the "Thinking" button and on the improved models, we hope to offer such

novelties as "Thinking — Gothic," "Thinking — Pretty Little Colonial With A White Picket Fence," "Thinking — Post-War Public Buildings," and "Thinking (But Not Very Hard) — Modern."

If any architects in Detroit are interested in negotiating for the South-East Michigan Sales Territory, terms can be discussed in the bar of the Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana, from 4:00 p. m. to 2:00 a. m., May 3, 4, and 5, 1944. Either Mr. Fairweather, Mr. Allen, or the writer will be authorized to discuss terms — at the expense of anyone who may wish to submit a proposition (blondes preferred). The decision of the interviewer will be semi-final, since the interviewer may, if he so desires, appeal his case, again at his own expense, indefinitely.

Respectfully,

KENNETH C. BLACK.

VALLEY'S ARCHITECTS NAME GODDEYNE HEAD

Joseph C. Goddeyne, Bay City architect, has been named president of the Saginaw Valley Architects association at their recent meeting in the Wenona Hotel, Bay City.

Other officers named were John MacKenzie, treasurer, of Flint; and, Donald A. Kimball, secretary, of Saginaw.

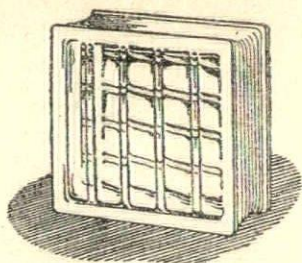
Various problems were discussed following dinner.

In an interchange of discussion, topics concerning the national unification of the profession, the effects of the national emergency upon employment, construction under the registration act, and civilian construction projects were discussed.

Harry B. Earhart, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, was re-elected to the Commission for a six-year term by the Board of Supervisors of Washtenaw County in Ann Arbor yesterday.

A past president of the sponsoring association, Mr. Earhart has been actively interested in the program of the Parkway Authority since his retirement from the White Star Division of the Socony-Vacuum Oil Company in 1932. A resident of "The Meadows" near Ann Arbor, Earhart was one of the five commissioners elected by the boards of supervisors in the five-county district. Two additional commissioners are appointed by the Governor. All of them serve without pay.

Our good friend, Clarence Gudnan, formerly of Murray W. Sales & Co., has joined with "Stu" Kelly as proprietor of a new cocktail bar, The Chalois, at 14994 Livernois Ave., 1½ blocks south of Fenkell Ave. His many friends will wish him every success.



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